

## THE MEETING OF SYNOD.

The Synod of the Maritime Provinces met in Knox Church, Pictou, on the evening of Tuesday, Oct. 14th at half past seven o'clock.

There was a large attendance of ministers and elders.

The opening sermon was preached by Rev. Dr. Burns, retiring Moderator, from 1 Cor. V, 14.

Rev. James McLean of Londonderry, was elected Moderator, and briefly addressed the Synod. He was the youngest member of the first class in Theology that met in the Temperance Hall at West River with Dr. Ross as sole Professor. Twenty-nine years with their changes sad and bright have passed a way since he entered the ministry.

The thanks of the Synod were tendered to Dr. Burns for the sermon, and in connection therewith honorable mention was made of his admirable defence of the principles of Protestantism, during the past year in the controversy with the Romanists.

The order of meetings was arranged as follows: A. M. from 10, to 12, 30. P. M. from 3, to 5.30, evening, 7.30 to 10.

Wednesday evening to be devoted to Foreign Missions and the State of Religion, Thursday evening to Temperance and Sabbath Schools.

*Wednesday, Oct. 15th.*

After half an hour spent in devotional exercise the Report of the

## HUNTER CHURCH FUND

was submitted. During the past year free grants have been made to the following places to aid in Church building:

Maccan .....	\$200.00
Parrsboro .....	250.00
North West Arm .....	200.00
Big Bras d'or .....	150.00
Black and Blue Rocks, Lunenburg .....	150.00

A loan of \$2000, free of interest was made to Park St. Church, Halifax, to be repaid in sums of \$400 per annum.

Besides these amounts there were several others, applications by different

congregations chiefly for free loans, which could not be granted, from the fact that by the direction of the Synod *one half* the funds received, *and that only* can be given on free loan, the other half to be an investment, the interest of which is to be given in grants. The amount available for the year for free loans was but \$2,259.49, and no further loan can be made until there is some sale of property or payment of instalments due by congregations.

Since the Fund was given to the Church, thirty-eight congregations have been helped by free grants, amounting in all to \$9346.66; and fifteen have received free loans amounting to \$14,700. Above fifty congregations in Nova Scotia more than one-third of the whole have received benefit. In some, debt has been removed. In some, unfinished churches have been completed. Some that would not otherwise have done so, have been encouraged to build.

Total received to date, principal and interest \$41,169.97. Payment to congregations \$31,646.66.

## AUGMENTATION SCHEME.

Rev. E. A. McCurdy reported what had been done since last Synod. His statement is published in full on another page.

Rev. Messrs. Macdonell of Toronto, and Warden of Montreal, who have devoted themselves so energetically and successfully to the work of Augmentation in the West, and who had been sent as deputies from the Western Committee to visit our Synod in the interests of the work in the Maritime Provinces, then addressed the Synod. We quote from *Witness* report.

"Rev. R. H. Warden, spoke of the Augmentation as the most important scheme of the Church. He gave a narrative of the procedure of the Western Committee, in raising \$35,000. Deputies were sent to each Presbytery to secure the sympathy and co-operation of the whole church. The deputies were carefully selected, furnished with a 'brief' and thus securing uniformity in the presentation of the scheme. Presbyteries were furnished with the fullest facts. In every